

ABSTRACT

A recording system and method, a recording apparatus and method, an input device and method, a playback system and method, a playback apparatus and method, a recording medium, and a program in which content can be flexibly protected according to whether the content should be protected. When mutual authentication is conducted with an AV board by a mutual authentication unit and when the content input into the mutual authentication unit is encrypted with a common key, an input/output controller determines that the content to be input via a bus is to be protected on the bus. The input/output controller then controls a recording/playback processor to generate protection information, indicating that the content is to be protected on the bus, and records the generated protection information on an optical disc together with the content.